

REMARKS

In an Office Action dated May 4, 2004, (paper no. 12) the Examiner rejected claims 1-27 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. The rejections and objections are traversed and reconsideration is hereby respectfully requested.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-27 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the art that the inventors, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claim invention. In particular, the Examiner stated that claims 1, 15, 18, 21, 23, and 24 includes performing (applying) Layer 2 functionality (protocol) or coding "based on whether the multimedia stream comprises one or more of audio, video, and data," which was not described in the specification at the time the application was filed. (Examiner's emphasis) Accordingly, the Examiner contended that this step is new matter.

The applicants respectfully disagree. As provided on page 5, lines 28 to 31, of the specification the reference to multimedia information in the application includes at least two types of information, such as voice, video, and data. FIG. 3 and page 7, lines 9-23, of the specification then teaches a codec that includes middleware comprising Layer 2 functionality and that further includes voice coders and decoders, video coders and decoders, and data coders and decoders. Page 8, line 11 to page 9, line 4, of the specification then provides that at an originating end, a multimedia stream comprising one or more of voice, video, and data may be received in their component types or may be received in a multiplexed format. Layer 2 functionality is applied to, or performed on, the multimedia stream and conveys the voice to a voice coder, video to a video coder, and data to a data coder. Similarly, page 10, line 16 to page 11, line 21, of the specification provides that, at a destination end, Layer 2 functionality is applied to, or performed on, a received multimedia session and conveys the voice to a voice decoder, video to a video decoder, and data to a data decoder. Therefore, the specification expressly provides that the application of Layer 2 functionality to, or performance of Layer 2 functionality on, the multimedia stream is based on whether the multimedia stream comprises one or more of

audio, video, and data. As a result, the applicants respectfully submit that the specification supports the features of claims 1, 15, 18, 21, and 23 of performing (applying) Layer 2 functionality (protocol) or coding based on whether the multimedia stream comprises one or more of audio, video, and data. Accordingly, that applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 1, 15, 18, 21, and 23, under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, and pass claims 1, 15, 18, 21, and 23 to allowance.

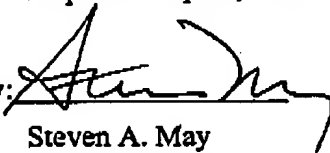
Similarly, the applicants respectfully submit that the specification supports the features of claim 24 of a mobile station coupled to the network and including a plurality of multimedia ports, wherein each multimedia port of the plurality of multimedia ports receives a multimedia stream of a plurality of multimedia streams comprising a multimedia session and routes the received multimedia stream to a coder of a plurality of coders based on whether the multimedia stream comprises one or more of audio, video, and data. Accordingly, that applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claim 24 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, and pass claim 24 to allowance.

Since claims 2-14 depend upon allowable claim 1, claims 16 and 17 depend upon allowable claim 15, claims 19 and 20 depend upon allowable claim 18, claim 22 depends upon allowable claim 21, and claims 25-27 depend upon allowable claim 24, the applicants respectfully request that claims 2-14, 16, 17, 19, 20, 22, and 25-27 may now be passed to allowance.

As the applicants have overcome all substantive rejections and objections given by the Examiner and have complied with all requests properly presented by the Examiner, the applicants contend that this Amendment, with the above discussion, overcomes the Examiner's objections to and rejections of the pending claims. Therefore, the applicants respectfully solicit allowance of the application. If the Examiner is of the opinion that any issues regarding the status of the claims remain after this response, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned representative to expedite resolution of the matter.

Respectfully submitted,

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